

REMARKS

The specification has been amended to reflect the 371 status. In addition, the multiple dependencies of the claims have been removed to reduce the PTO filing fee.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by the current amendment. The attached pages are captioned "Version with markings to show changes made".

Favorable action on the merits is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

Kazuo SUGAMURA et al.

By

Warren Cheek Jr.

Warren M. Cheek, Jr.
Registration No. 33,367
Attorney for Applicants

WMC/dlk
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
May 10, 2001